

New Hampshire  
State Board of Education  
Minutes of the October 9, 2014 Meeting

**AGENDA ITEM I. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the State Board of Education was convened at 9:00 a.m. at the Department of Education, 101 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH. Tom Raffio presided as Chairman.

Members present: Tom Raffio, Cindy C. Chagnon, Bill Duncan, Gary Groleau, Helen G. Honorow. Emma Rous and Gregory Odell were unable to be present. Paul K. Leather, Deputy Commissioner of Education, was present. Virginia M. Barry, Commissioner of Education, arrived at 11:30 a.m.

**AGENDA ITEM II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Helen Honorow led the pledge of allegiance.

**AGENDA ITEM III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no Public Comment at this meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM IV. OPEN BOARD DISCUSSION**

A. Update on Charter Schools – Chairman Raffio said that the Board had received a request from another new charter school and later in the meeting there would be a presentation by Compass Academy.

1. Charter School Matrix - Bill Duncan said that Keith Burke is preparing a template and it should be ready for the first of November.

B. Update on Unity – Chip Baldwin, Principal of the Unity School, was present and updated the Board on the new school. Tim Carney, Administrator of the Bureau of School Safety and Facility Management for the Department, updated Board members on the October 3, 2014 visit to the Unity Elementary School. The purpose of the site visit was to assess construction progress since the last site visit completed on September 24, 2014. Mr. Carney reported that school was in session during this site visit and construction activities did not seem to be interfering with school operations. Mr. Carney reported that there are several items that still have not been completed but steady progress is being made by both the architect and construction manager to address these issues. An additional site visit is planned by the Department prior to the October 22, 2014 Grand Opening event.

C. Discussion on Strategic Items – Goals – Chairman Raffio said that if Board members have any additional information regarding the dashboard metric to send it to Heather Gage.

D. City of Manchester – Paul Leather presented current enrollment data and reported that there are class size issues in one Manchester Middle School – Southside. He distributed the enrollment report from David Ryan, Assistant Superintendent of Schools for the Manchester School District. Mr. Leather said the leadership team in Manchester met with the Commissioner and himself regarding progress made by the Innovation Zone. An impressive amount of improvement work has occurred. The Manchester School of Technology has been added to the Innovation Zone.

E. Miscellaneous – Cindy Chagnon said she had attended an Open House on Monday for MC2 in Manchester. There is a good relationship between the charter school and the public schools. MC2 is known nationally and are aggressive in getting the message out. Bill Duncan said there is a video on his website.

Student/Candia School Board – SB-FY-14-02-009 – The narrative has been prepared for this case.

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Bill Duncan, to accept the narrative in the matter of Student/Candia School Board – SB-FY-14-02-009.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

The Vermont State Board of Education has forwarded their statement on assessment and accountability, along with the Secretary of Education's letter to parents and caregivers. Board members decided since it was just received by Board members they needed time to review the information. This will be on the November 17<sup>th</sup> State Board agenda.

Chairman Raffio said there is a Business and Education Coalition meeting in December.

Chairman Raffio said the White Mountain School District mentoring program will be presented at the November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **AGENDA ITEM V. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

A. North Country Charter Academy Update – Lisa Lavoie, Principal of the North Country Charter Academy, presented a power point presentation. Scott Kleinschrodt, Center Director, Lancaster Site; Vincent Calaio, Student, Linwood School District; Lynn Murray, Parent, Linwood School District; Deb Newton, Parent, White Mountains Regional School District; were present. Brian Calaio, Parent, was in the audience. The Academy was established in 2004 and is celebrating its tenth year. It is a collaborative effort of North Country Education Services and nine school superintendents. The Academy provides a learning environment for students who would benefit from a nontraditional high school setting who are at risk of dropping out of high school or who have dropped out. It is a structured environment with increased student responsibility and strict center rules. The curriculum is rigorous and relevant and is self-paced. The local school district partnerships share resources and there is parental and community support. Vincent Calaio, Lynn Murray and Deb Newton spoke of how being involved with the Academy has really helped in their lives.

B. Goffstown/Dunbarton School Boards – SB FY-14-01-008 – Edward M. Kaplan, Attorney for the Goffstown School Board, Gordon Graham, Attorney for the Dunbarton School Board, Brian Balke, Superintendent of Schools for SAU #19, Ray LaBore, Business Administrator, Dean Cascadden, Superintendent of Schools for SAU #67, Rene Ouellet, Chair of the Dunbarton School Board, Jarett Duncan, Dunbarton School Board, Dian McCarthy, Chair of the Goffstown School Board, and Jeff Trexler, Dunbarton School Board, were in attendance. The issue is an AREA Plan dispute between the Goffstown and Dunbarton School Districts. The request was made in accordance with Section 15 of the AREA plan, which provides that disputes “concerning the terms of this Agreement” are to be resolved, in accordance with Administrative Rule Ed 200, by the New Hampshire Board of Education. The Board’s jurisdictional authority over this dispute is established by RSA 21-N:4,III.

MOTION: Helen Honorow made the motion, seconded by Cindy Chagnon, that the State Board of Education accept the Hearing Officer’s Report and adopt the Hearing Officer’s Recommendation.

VOTE: This was done by a roll call vote: Gary Groleau – Yes; Cindy Chagnon – Yes; Tom Raffio – Yes; Bill Duncan – Yes; Helen Honorow – Yes.

C. International Studies – Paul Leather said the subcommittee held a meeting after the last Board meeting. A draft model policy will be presented at the November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

D. Public Hearing – Ed 318, Chartered Schools and Ed 319, Open Enrollment Schools – The existing rule Ed 318 addresses charter and open enrollment school requirements. This proposal divides Ed 318 into 2 parts consistent with the change in the law in 2009; that is, Ed 318 on chartered public schools pursuant to RSA 194-B and Ed 319 on open enrollment schools pursuant to RSA 194-D. Ed 318 sets out the requirements for charter school approval by two processes. These rules also provide for the issuance and amendment of a charter for a charter school as well as a process for renewal, revocation and withdrawal. In addition these rules identify charter school annual report requirements, deadline for pupil enrollment, and assurances against discrimination. Ed 319 sets up a new Part for requirements for open enrollment schools previously combined in Ed 318. There are no new requirements in this Part. The amendments to the Ed 318 rules include replacing the language for the pilot program with the State Board process; updating the requirements for health and safety; updating the requirements for other policies consistent with state law; and adding clear language for renewal of an application and requirements for revocation and withdrawal of a chartered public school. Beth McClure from Strong Foundations, Eileen Liponis from the NH Public Charter School Association, and Mary Mayo from the Department, presented testimony.

E. Safe Schools/Healthy Students – Mary Steady, Project Director with the Department and McKenzie Harrington-Bacote from the Laconia School District, met with the Board. The goal of Safe Schools/Healthy Students is to increase the number of children who have access to behavioral health services, decrease the number of students who abuse substances, increase the capacity of our community agencies to provide early childhood development services, improve school climate, and reduce the number of children who are exposed to violence, including decreasing the use of exclusionary practices in our schools and early childhood programs. They presented a power point presentation. There are 3.5 million in-school suspensions and 3.3 million out-of-school suspensions in the United States. The preschool expulsion rate is more than three times than that for K-12 and one in five children will be diagnosed with a mental illness every year. Our schools are often the first ones to see at early ages and stages the behavioral health needs.

F. Approval of New Charter School Application – Compass Classical Academy: A Public Charter School – Judy Tilton, Founder, spoke to the Board regarding Compass Classical Academy. Donna Chase, Senator Jeanie Forrester, Carol Wright, and Beth McClure, were also in attendance. In September 2015, Compass Classical Academy plans to open in the Lakes Region (Tilton/Laconia area) with up to 120 students in grades K-5. In the future, CCA plans to add 1 to 2 grade levels each year thereafter. CCA will build a total enrollment of up to 260 students in grades K-21. The Compass Classical Academy believes that all students regardless of socio-economic background or

academic competence benefit from a rigorous, content-rich, educational program that develops academic potential and personal character. They believe students will achieve their best potential when taught foundational skills and information and are challenged by high expectations.

**MOTION:** Tom Raffio made the motion, seconded by Gary Groleau, that the State Board of Education, voted to authorize the Compass Classical Academy: A Public Charter School application to move forward.

**VOTE:** This was done by a roll call vote: Gary Groleau – Yes; Cindy Chagnon – Yes; Tom Raffio – Yes; Bill Duncan – No; Helen Honorow – No. The motion passed by a 3 – 2 vote.

### **AGENDA ITEM VI. NEW DEPARTMENT BUSINESS**

Commissioner Barry reported that there is a meeting with the Professional Standards Board, the Council for Teacher Education, and the IHE people on October 31<sup>st</sup> at Southern New Hampshire University from 9 – 12. All board members are invited but the Commissioner would like Cindy Chagnon and Helen Honorow to attend if possible.

Paul Leather reported on the following items:

1. Lakeview Rehabilitation Center's certification has been suspended and that Governor Hassan has closed the facility. There are two students from New Hampshire placed there. Santina Thibedeau, Special Education Administrator, will be visiting the facility on Friday.
2. The Department requested that the Attorney General's Office review the Gilsum School closing with respect for process. There was no prior notice given when the action was taken at a recent school board meeting.
3. The Department is working on planned state budget cuts. The Governor's Office is requesting about 4.4 million of the Department by next week.
4. There is a Legislative Study Commission on the validity of the Smarter Balanced Assessment. The Department has been asked to provide detailed information.
5. The STEM Task Force is close to presenting recommendations. They will be available in November. Some recommendations will directly affect the State Board; such as, STEM, Career and Technical Education, SAU Plans, and Adopt Next Generation Science Standards.

Commissioner Barry said that the waiver was turned down for the Business Administrator.

#### **AGENDA ITEM VII. LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**

There was no Legislative Issues at this meeting.

#### **AGENDA ITEM VIII. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Commissioner Barry attended the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Pinkerton Academy. They have graduated 20,000 students over the years.

Commissioner Barry said there is a news conference on Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> to acknowledge the outstanding work of New Hampshire educators. During this conference we will be presenting the Commissioner's Circle of Excellence awards as well as recognizing the 2014 National Blue Ribbon Schools, 2015 NH Teacher of the Year, Innovative Practices, and schools that have been identified as making important strides in closing the gap between regular education students and special education students.

Mr. Leather said Commissioner Barry had received the President's Award from the New England Association of School Superintendents recently at a meeting in Portland, Maine.

Commissioner Barry said "Our Story of Transformation" has been received very well.

Mr. Leather mentioned that Achieve is giving the Department a grant to support standards and Smarter Balanced Assessment and the money will be given to the Business and Education Coalition. Mr. Leather said the Department has received a major grant from Hewlett for performance assessment. There are four districts involved in this project: Sanborn Regional, Rochester, Epping, Souhegan.

Commissioner Barry said the Business and Education Coalition has made a difference with business leaders with a more positive attitude.

#### **AGENDA ITEM IX. OLD BUSINESS**

Chairman Raffio mentioned that NEA-NH would be holding their annual conference at Bow High School on Friday.

Chairman Raffio has tickets to the November 19 Education Monarchs game. Bill Duncan has agreed to attend to represent the Board.

Chairman Raffio mentioned the AARP letter (re: the essay contest) that needs to go out to Superintendents; there is a charter school initial proposal hearing Monday night at 4:30 p.m.; October 29 is the Board Retreat to discuss charter schools. He would like Brian Buonamano in attendance. The Vermont State Board of Education letter will be discussed at the November 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. The White Mountain School District mentoring program will be on the November 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting agenda and the Hollis Brookline item will be on that agenda.

#### **AGENDA ITEM X. CONSENT AGENDA**

##### **A. Minutes of September 9, 2014 Meeting**

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Bill Duncan, to approve the Minutes of September 9, 2014 Meeting.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

##### **B. Minutes of Nonpublic Session September 9, 2014 Teacher/Farmington School Board – SB FY-14-08-004**

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Gary Groleau, to approve the Minutes of Nonpublic Session September 9, 2014 Teacher/Farmington School Board – SB-FY-14-008-004 and to seal the minutes.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

##### **C. Minutes of Nonpublic Session September 9, 2014 Student/Candia School Board – SB-FY-14-02-009**

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Gary Groleau, to approve the Minutes of Nonpublic Session September 9, 2014 Student/Candia School Board – SB-FY-14-02-009 and to seal the minutes.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

D. Minutes of Nonpublic Session September 9, 2014 Principal/Hollis School Board – SB-FY-14-05-014

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Gary Groleau, to approve the Minutes of Nonpublic Session September 9, 2014 Principal/Hollis School Board – SB-FY-14-05-014 and to seal the minutes.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

E. Appointment to Professional Standards Board – Angela Stewart Friborg – One newly appointed Professional Standards Board member had to resign from her commitment to the Board. She was appointed under Category I, Teachers and Education Specialists. An application has been reviewed and Angela Stewart Friborg, English Teacher, Manchester Memorial High School, is being recommended for appointment.

MOTION: Bill Duncan made the motion, seconded by Helen Honorow, that the State Board of Education approve the appointment of Angela Stewart Friborg to the Professional Standards Board under Category I, Teachers and Education Specialists with a term ending June 30, 2017.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

**AGENDA ITEM XI. TABLED ITEMS**

There were no Tabled Items at this meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM XII. NONPUBLIC SESSION**

The Board did not go into Nonpublic Session at this meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Gary Groleau, to adjourn the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

*Virginia M. Barry*

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Secretary